

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 07784 171128Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAM-01

/055 W

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R 171104Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1068

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, TU, BU

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL TO VISIT BULGARIA

1. TURKISH PRESS OCTOBER 16 AND 17 CARRIED REPORTS QUOTING FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES TO THE EFFECT THAT PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL HAS ACCEPTED A BULGARIAN INVITATION TO MAKE A 5-DAY VISIT TO SOFIA DURING LATE NOVEMBER. ACCORDING TO THE STORY, BULGARIA IS ANXIOUS TO IMPROVE ITS TIES WITH TURKEY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BULGARIA AND COUNTRIES SOUTH AND EAST OF TURKEY. REPORT ALSO STATES THAT BULGARIA HAS AGREED, AS AN INDUCEMENT TO DEMIREL, TO FACILITATE THE EMIGRATION OF BULGARIAN TURKS WHOSE FAMILIES ARE DIVIDED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. (CSCE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS NOT PICKED UP BY THE PRESS.)

2. MFA DIRECTOR OF EASTERN DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF OCTOBER 16 THAT DEIREL HAD ACCEPTED INVITATION BUT SAID TIMING AND LENGTH OF VISIT NOT YET SETTLED. VISIT BY DEMIREL IS CONSISTENT

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 07784 171128Z

WITH GOT POLICY OF WILLINGNESS TO EXPAND ITS RELATIONS WITH ITS COM-

MUNIST NEIGHBORS AND IT IS A LOGICAL CULMINATION OF THE MEETING
BETWEEN DEMIREL AND BULGARIAN STATE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN ZHIVKOV ON
TURKISH-BULGARIAN BORDER IN JULY AND THE VISIT OF BULGARIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER TO ANKARA IN SEPTEMBER.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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